TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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A3275-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 3, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 28 totaled 348,586, down 2.0 percent from the comparable week of 1989 but 0.3 percent above the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 1.8 percent in the East and 2.2 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 4,984 cars (4.0 percent). Loadings of metallic ores decreased by 4,813 cars (21.0 percent) and motor vehicles and equipment loadings were down 1,796 cars (8.1 percent). Grain loadings were down 1,167 cars (4.3 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 17 weeks of 1990 totaled 5,747,943, up 0.3 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 119,503 trailers and/or containers for the week ended April 28, up 3.6 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 17 weeks of 1990 was 1,975,248 trailers and/or containers, 3.2 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended April 28 totaled 20.3 billion, up 0.5 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 17 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 334.1 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 28, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING APRIL 28, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	26,196	27,363	-4.3 %	29,685	-11.8 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,243	2,190	-43.2	1,164	6.8
Metallic Ores	18,084	22,897	-21.0	17,636	2.5
Coal	130,072	125,088	4.0	131,672	-1.2
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,438	16,899	-2.7	15,678	4.8
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,045	9,908	1.4	9,834	2.1
Grain Mill Products	10,055	10,356	-2.9	9,772	2.9
Food & Kindred Products	8,661	9,014	-3.9	8,429	2.8
Primary Forest Products	10,469	11,075	-5.5	10,319	1.5
Lumber & Wood Products	7,337	7,648	-4.1	6,813	7.7
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,981	11,133	-1.4	10,450	5.1
Chemicals	30,741	30,342	1.3	31,622	-2.8
Petroleum Products	5,121	5,244	-2.3	5,345	-4.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,266	10,963	-6.4	10,477	-2.0
Coke	5,984	5,218	14.7	6,240	-4.1
Metals & Products	10,250	10,657	-3.8	9,978	2.7
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	20,404	22,200	-8.1	16,988	20.1
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,082	9,744	-6.8	8,992	1.0
All Other Carloads	7,157	7,694	-7.0	6,457	10.8
Total	348,586	355,633	-2.0 %	347,551	.3 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING APRIL 28, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 17 WEEKS ENDING APRIL 28, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	348,586	355,633	-2.0 %	5,747,943	5,732,875	.3 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	67,422	68,560	-1.7	1,117,514	1,114,997	.2
Containers	52,081	46,840	11.2	857,734	799,459	7.3
Total	119,503	115,400	3.6	1,975,248	1,914,456	3.2
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.3	20.2	.5 %	334.1	329.9	1.3 %